

CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: PG: 82A-45 (PACS A24) Construction Date: circa 1920
Name: Bertha Curtis Property
Location: 6014 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County

Private/Private residence/Unoccupied/Fair/Not Accessible

Description:

The Bertha Curtis Property is a 1½-story, 3-bay side-gable cottage on the south side of Crain Highway (US 301) in the Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County. Constructed circa 1920, the building is rectangular in plan with front and rear porches and exposed rafter ends. The structure has a side-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The house is of wood-frame construction with new vinyl siding, and it has a concrete block foundation. The original wood 6/6 double-hung windows are being replaced with vinyl 6/6 double-hung windows. The shed roof porches on the front and rear elevations have square wood posts and railings with turned balusters. The porch floor is wood and supported by concrete piers.

Significance:

The Bertha Curtis Property is a side-gable cottage located along U.S. 301 in Prince George's County. It is an undistinguished example of a common building type. The material integrity has been compromised by the removal of windows and the addition of vinyl siding. The house was constructed on 138.81 hectares (343 acres) of land in which Bertha Curtis was granted one-half interest in 1920 by William and Jane Curtis. The structure does not appear on Martenet's Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861 and Hopkins' Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1878, as it was constructed circa 1920. The current owner, Margarete V. Curtis, acquired the house and its associated 2.3 hectare (5.7 acre) parcel in 1958.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form
U.S. 301 South Corridor Transportation Study

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no**1. Name:** (indicate preferred name)

historic Bertha Curtis Property

and/or common Margarete Curtis Property

2. Location:street & number 6014 Crain Highway ☐ not for publicationcity, town Upper Marlboro ☒ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification:

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military other:
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation

4. Owner of Property: (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Margarete Curtis

street & number 6014 Crain Highway

telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro

state and zip code MD 20772

5. Location of Legal Description

Land Records Office of Prince George's County

liber 2239

street & number County Administration Building

folio 518

city, town Upper Marlboro

state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. PG: 82A-45 (PACS A24)

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> _deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> _unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> _good	<input type="checkbox"/> _ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _altered	<input type="checkbox"/> _moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _fair	<input type="checkbox"/> _unexposed			

Resource Count: 1

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Bertha Curtis Property is a 1½-story, 3-bay side-gable cottage on the south side of Crain Highway (US 301) in the Upper Marlboro vicinity, Prince George's County. Constructed circa 1920, the building is rectangular in plan with a front and rear porch and exposed rafter ends.

The structure has a side-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles. The house is of wood-frame construction with new vinyl siding, and it has a concrete block foundation. The original wood 6/6 double-hung windows are being replaced with vinyl 6/6 double-hung windows. The house has a shed roof porch on both the front and rear elevations. The porches have square wood posts and a railing with turned balusters. The porch floor is wood and supported by concrete piers.

The front, or north facade has a central entrance consisting of a vinyl door with a fan-shape light. The fenestration pattern on the front facade is symmetrical, with a pair of windows on each side of the central entrance. The south bay has a pair of vinyl windows while the north bay is covered with plywood.

The east elevation has a symmetrical fenestration pattern. The basement level has two 2-light windows in the foundation. The first and second stories each have two double-hung windows aligned over the basement level fenestration.

The rear, or south elevation has a partially enclosed porch. The south end of the porch has been enclosed with vinyl siding. A vinyl door opens onto the porch on the north side of the enclosure. Within the porch is a vinyl, 6-light door and two 1/1 double-hung windows on the first story of the rear elevation.

The west elevation has a fenestration pattern identical to the north elevation. The first story windows of the south elevation are covered with plywood.

There are no outbuildings associated with this property.

The property is located on the south side of Crain Highway (US 301). The property is accessed by WSSC Water Treatment Plant Road. The house is located on a level lot with Crain Highway and WSSC Water Treatment Plant Road to the north and west, the Marlboro Raceway to the east and a residence to the south. The property is located in a developed section of the Crain Highway, near car dealerships and shopping centers.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG: 82A-45 (PACS A24)

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communication	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	circa 1920	Builder/Architect	unknown
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check: Applicable Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D
and/or
Applicable Exceptions: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G
Level of Significance: ___national ___state ___local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Bertha Curtis Property was constructed on 138.81 hectares (343 acres) of land in which Bertha Curtis was granted one-half interest in 1920 by William and Jane Curtis. The structure does not appear on Martenet's Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861 and Hopkins' Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1878, as it was constructed circa 1920. The current owner, Margarete Curtis, acquired the house and its associated 2.3 hectare (5.7 acre) parcel in 1958.

The Bertha Curtis Property is located along U.S. 301 in Prince George's County. The Native American inhabitants of southern Maryland from the Piscataway and Potobac nations were joined by European settlers beginning in 1634 with the establishment of St. Mary's City by Leonard Calvert. Successive waves of colonists took up tracts of land further inland from the Chesapeake Bay along the Patuxent and Potomac rivers and their tributaries. Charles County was formed in 1658 and Prince George's County was established in 1696. Settlement was confined to inland areas until road clearing began in the mid-eighteenth century as a result of the establishment of port towns and Maryland's rising population. Tobacco cultivation dominated the economic and social life of both Charles and Prince George's counties until the mid-nineteenth century when soil exhaustion necessitated agricultural diversification. The introduction of rail lines in 1873 linked Prince George's and Charles counties with the surrounding area, encouraging trade and settlement. While the suburbanization of Prince George's and Charles counties was ensured by the widespread availability of the automobile in the mid-twentieth century, these southern Maryland counties have also retained their rural and agricultural character.

The house on the Bertha Curtis Property is a side-gable cottage constructed circa 1920. Between 1870 and 1940 the vernacular cottage style was typically built for Americans of modest means. They are characterized by simple ornamentation and mass-produced components, such as door frames, moldings, sash and window units, and porch decoration. The development of post-Civil War machinery capable of producing large amounts of standardized housing elements, such as those found in cottages, contributed greatly to the development of the modern American housing industry. Designs for vernacular cottages were obtained from popular magazines, such as House Beautiful, or carpenter's and builder's journals, such as American Builder. A variety of front-gable, side-gable, cross-gable and hipped roof frame cottages were developed in the early to mid-twentieth century. Front-gable and hipped roof cottages are primarily one to one-and-a-half stories tall, 3-bays wide and several rooms deep. Side-gable and cross-gable structures are usually two to two-and-a-half-stories tall, are typically 2- to 3-bays in width and vary from one to three rooms deep. They usually include a porch covered with a shed roof. Porches are

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Bertha Curtis Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 82A-45 (PACS A24)

ADDRESS: 6014 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County, Maryland

8. Significance (Continued)

supported by posts often containing machine-produced Victorian ornamentation. Some cottages feature ornamentation drawn from Craftsman style or Colonial Revival architecture (Gottfried and Jennings 1988, viii-xv).

NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:

Constructed circa 1920, the Bertha Curtis Property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. It is not eligible under Criterion C, as it is an undistinguished example of a common building type. The material integrity has been compromised by the removal of windows and the addition of vinyl siding. Finally, the structure has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility Not Recommended XX

Comments: _____

Reviewer, OPS: Carl Zude ✓

Date: 10/14/95

Reviewer, NR Program: _____

Date: _____

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Bertha Curtis Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 82A-45 (PACS A24)

ADDRESS: 6014 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County, Maryland

8. Significance (Continued)

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NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION:

Constructed circa 1920, the Bertha Curtis Property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. It is not eligible under Criterion C, as it is an undistinguished example of a common building type. The material integrity has been compromised by the removal of windows and the addition of vinyl siding. Finally, the structure has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility Not Recommended X

Comments: _____

Reviewer, OPS: Suzanne Pickens

Date: 07/21/1997

Reviewer, NR Program: Prinity

Date: 7/21/97

gmg

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. PG:82A-45(PACS A24)

Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Bristol, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Caroline Hall/Tim Tamburrino

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date September 1996

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposed only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
(410) 514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: Bertha Curtis Property

SURVEY NO.: PG: 82A-45 (PACS A24)

ADDRESS: 6014 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, Prince George's County, Maryland

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

- Boucher, Jack E. Landmarks of Prince George's County, Maryland. Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press, 1993.
- Bowie, Effie Gwynn. Across the Years in Prince George's County. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1975.
- Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940. Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press, 1988.
- Hopkins, G. M. Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington Including the County of Prince George, Maryland. Riverdale, Maryland: Reprint by the Prince George's County Historical Society, 1975.
- Martenet, Simon J. Atlas of Prince George's County, Maryland, 1861. Riverdale, Maryland: Reprint by the Prince George's County Historical Society, 1996.
- Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission. Illustrated Inventory of Historic Sites, Prince George's County, Maryland. Upper Marlboro, 1993.
- Pearl, Susan G., Marina King and Howard S. Berger. Historic Contexts in Prince George's County. Upper Marlboro: Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 1991.
- Prince George's County Tax Records
- Watson, James Douglas. Prince George's County, Past and Present. Washington, D.C.: Federal Lithograph Company, 1962.

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Bertha Curtis Property; PG:82A-45 (PACS A24)
6014 Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Buildings; Private Ownership; Public Acquisition - Not
applicable; Occupied; Not accessible; Private Residence

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Suburban

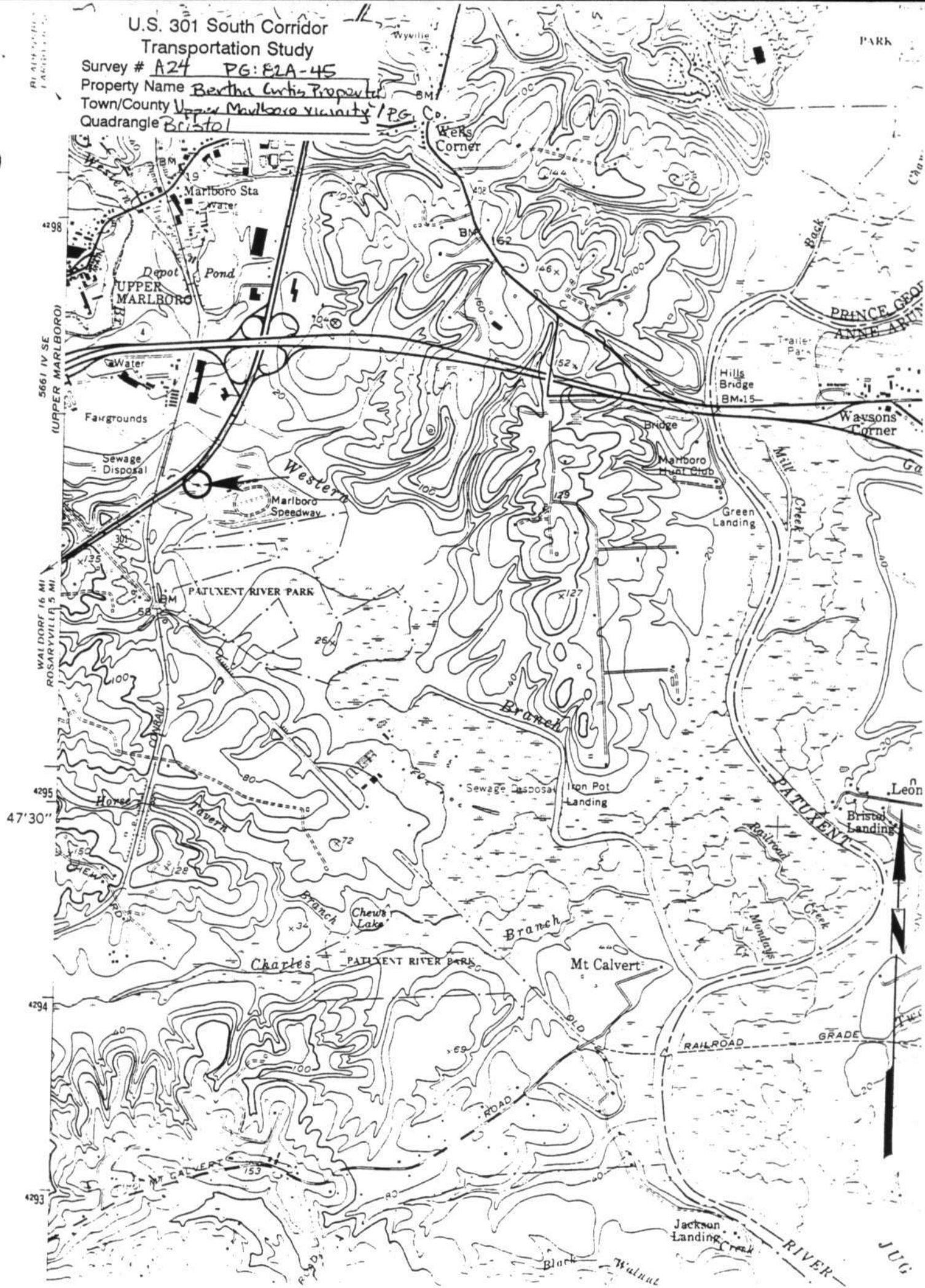
Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Residence

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

None

Quadrangle Bristol





1. PG: 82A-45
2. BERTHA CURTIS PROPERTY, PRINCE GEORGE'S CO, MD
3. ~~Tim Tamburino~~ 9/96
4. P.A.C. Speno & Co
40 W. Chesapeake Ave Suite 412
BALTIMORE, MD 21204
5. 6014 Crain Highway. North and west elevations of
South east view house
6. 1 of 3



1. PG:82A-45
2. Bertna Curtis Property
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO, MD
3. Tim Tamburrino 9/96
4. P.A.C. Spero + Co, 40 W. Chesapeake
Ave, #412, Balto, md 21204
5. 6014 Crain Highway West elevation
East View
6. 2 of 3



1. PG!A-45
2. Bertha Curtis Property
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO MD
3. Tim Tambyrino 9/96
4. P.A.C. Spero + Co, 40 W Chesapeake
Ave, #412, Balto, md 21204
5. 6014 Crain Highway South and
east elevations of house
6. 3 of 3 North west view